

CLAIMS

I claim:

1. An attachment, for an instrument having means for generating a laser beam emitted therefrom, comprising:

(i) a body structure for mounting on the instrument,

(ii) a carrier supported by said body structure, said carrier being movable with respect to said body structure into a plurality of respective control positions, said carrier having laser beam modifying means which can be respectively presented in the path of the laser beam according to the relative position of the carrier with respect to the body structure.

2. An attachment, as claimed in claim¹, wherein the carrier is slidable, with respect to the body structure, for movement into and out of said relative positions.

3. An attachment, as claimed in claim ⁹~~1~~, wherein the laser beam modifying means of said carrier include a laser beam attenuator.

4. An attachment, as claimed in claim ⁹~~1~~, wherein the laser beam modifying means of said carrier include a laser beam splitter.

5. An attachment, as claimed in claim 4, wherein said laser beam splitter is a diffraction lens.

~~6~~ In combination:

(a) an attachment as claimed in claim 1,

(b) an instrument having means for generating a laser beam,

(c) means on said instrument for varying the power of the laser beam,

(d) means on said carrier positioned to actuate the power varying means according to the relative position of said carrier with respect to said body structure.

7 The combination of claim ⁹ wherein said carrier has a first position relative to the body structure in which it is traversed by a single laser beam produced by the instrument, and a second position relative to the body structure in which said single laser beam is divided into plural beams, and wherein the power of the single laser beam is increased when said carrier is in its second position relative to the body structure.

8. The combination of claim ⁹ wherein said carrier has a first position relative to the body structure in which it is traversed by a single laser beam produced by the instrument, and a second position relative to the body structure in which said single laser beam is divided into plural beams, and wherein means are provided to attenuate the power of said single laser beam in the first position of the carrier.